REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Initially, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Chen for the indication that claims 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In accordance with this indication, claim 13 has been amended by incorporating subject matter from claim 14 into it. Accordingly, claim 14 has been canceled.

Claims 1 and 16 have also been canceled.

Claims 2-12 have been amended to ultimately depend from process claim 13.

Claim 15 has also been amended.

New claims 17-19 have been added. These claims are directed to specific subject matter found in claims 14, 9 and 12, respectively, and are supported at least by those claims.

Claims 2-13, 15 and 17-19 are currently pending, although claims 2-12 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant currently seek rejoinder of amended withdrawn claims 2-12 at this time.

The Office Action rejected claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments to the claims have rendered this rejection moot, and that the rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

7

The Office Action also rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C § 102 as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C § 103 as obvious over U.S. patent 6,242,752 ("Soma"). In view of the above amendments to claim 13 and the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been rendered moot, and that the rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Richard L. Treanor Attorney/of Record Registration No. 36,379

Jeffrey B. McIntyre Registration No. 36,867

Customer Number

22850

Tel #: (703) 413-3000 Fax #: (703) 413-2220